

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The foregoing amendment and the following arguments are provided to impart precision to the claims, by more particularly pointing out the invention, rather than to avoid prior art.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 8-11 and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0030665 (hereinafter "Ano") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,156,049 (hereinafter "Douglas").

To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). (Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) ¶ 2143.03).

Applicant's independent claims include the claim limitations that are not disclosed in Ano nor Douglas. Therefore, applicant's independent claims are patentable over Ano in view of Douglas.

In particular, applicant's independent claims include the limitation, or similar thereto, of:

A user input device comprising a wheel positioned horizontally relative to keyboard surface of a portable computer, ~~wherein~~ rotation of the wheel communicates user input to the computer, ~~wherein~~ rotation of the wheel provides variable input to an application being executed on the portable computer, the variable input includes numerical input, wherein rotation of the wheel in a first direction increases a numerical value, and rotation of the wheel in a second direction decreases the numerical value, and wheel includes a tracking device to provide user input to direct

a cursor displayed on a display of a portable computer, the tracking device is placed substantially in a center of the wheel. (emphasis added.)

Therefore, considering applicant's independent claims include limitations not disclosed or taught by the Ano in view of Douglas, applicant's independent claims are patentable over Ano in view of Douglas.

In addition, applicants' remaining claims depend from at least one of the independent claims mentioned above. As a result of depending from one of the independent claim, the remaining claims include the distinguishing limitations discussed above, and are therefore also patentable over Ano in view of Douglas.

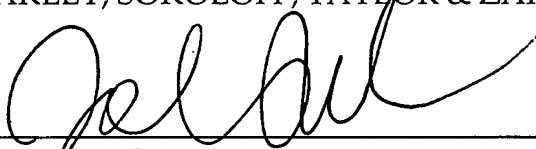
CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call John Ward at (408) 720-8300, x237.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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